

In Re: RM-10867

After carefully reviewing each of the petitions before the Commission on the matter of Amateur Service Restructuring, I feel that the ARRL proposal is the most logical approach to prepare the service for the future.

While I am an 'old' Extra-class licensee, and worked my way up by testing at FCC field offices, I am also a VE who sees the need to bring the hobby and service into the twenty-first century.

Many other countries have implemented similar changes, and they have helped to revitalize the service, rather than sounding the death-knell as so many fear.

I do believe that Extra-class licensees should still be required to demonstrate at least cursory proficiency in the use of the International Code, and highly recommend retaining the 5-wpm requirement for that class of license.

I have no objection to 'grandfathering' current licensees to the 'higher' classes, as long as those who have completed exams for CW are allowed to hold those qualifications for upgrade purposes.

In summary, I fully support the rapid implementation of RM-10867.